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4955 7590 08/31/2009 WARE FRESSOLA VAN DER SLUYS & ADOLPHSON, LLP BRADFORD GREEN, BUILDING 5 755 MAIN STREET, P O BOX 224 MONROE, CT 06468				
EXAMINER BILGRAMI, ASGHAR H				
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**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

### Office Action Summary

**Application No.**

10/099,902

**Applicant(s)**

SALMI ET AL.

**Examiner**

ASGHAR BILGRAMI

**Art Unit**

2443

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 June 2009.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 5, 7, 8, 17, 19, 21-23, 25-27, 29-43 and 45-61 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 5, 7, 8, 17, 19, 21-23, 25-27, 29-43 and 45-61 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 31 March 2009 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## DETAILED ACTION

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

1. Claims 5, 7, 8, 17, 19, 21-23, 25-27, 29-43, 45-61 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Desai et al (U.S. 6,820,204 B1) in view of Eftis et al (U.S. 7,171,473 B1) and Aravamudan et al (U.S. 6,301,609 B1).
2. To simplify the understanding of the independent claim language examiner has interpreted the claim limitations within {...} where applicable.
3. As per claims 22 & 42 Desai disclosed a method comprising receiving a subscribe presence primitive from a client of a requesting user for subscribing presence information of a requested user {a registered user requesting the presence information (I.E. any information) of another registered user} (col.3, lines 42-62) , determining if a subscription to said presence information of the requested user has been pre-authorized by the requested user {checking if the user whose presence information has been requested has authorized to release his/her presence information} (col.3, lines 63-67 & col.4, lines 1-7), if the

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subscription has not been pre-authorized {if not authorized}, requesting an authorization and receiving an authorize presence primitive from the requested user, and if the subscription has been authorized or pre-authorized, providing a presence primitive including presence information of the requested information to the requested user according to subscription (col.3, lines 63-67 & col.4,lines 1-7), wherein said subscription is valid for a period of time in which one or more presence primitives including requested presence information of the requested user are provided on an on-going basis to said client of said requesting user (col.13, lines 42-46), particularly after receiving an update presence primitive including one or more presence attribute values to be updated from said requested user (col.13,lines 39-43).

However Desai did not explicitly disclose wherein the presence primitive comprises one or more information elements including a presence information element, said presence information element comprises one or more presence attributes, the values of the attributes indicating presence status of the requested user or a client of the requested user at the time the presence information is provided.

In the same field of endeavor Eftis disclosed wherein the presence primitive comprises one or more information elements including a presence information element, said presence information element comprises one or more presence attributes, the values of the attributes indicating presence status of the requested

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user or a client of the requested user at the time the presence information is provided (col.14, lines 20-57)

It would have been obvious to one in the ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have incorporated one or more presence attributes indicating the status of a user as disclosed by Eftis in the method disclosed by Desai in order to keep the track of the users on the network resulting in a robust network that portrays accurate information about the users in the network.

However neither Desai nor Eftis explicitly disclose said presence attributes are classifiable in any or more of the following: client reachability, user availability, user personal status, user or client location, and client capabilities, and wherein said values of the presence attributes have associated space and time information useable by a presence server to modify and presence attribute values or related presence attribute values in processing said primitives.

In the same field of endeavor Aravanmudan disclosed said presence attributes are classifiable in any one or more of the following: client reachability, user availability, user personal status, user or client location (col.5, lines 15-31), and client capabilities, and wherein said values of the presence attributes have associated space and time information useable by a presence server to modify and presence attribute values or related presence attribute values in processing said primitives (col.6, lines 64-67 & col.7, lines 1-20).

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It would have been obvious to one in the ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have incorporated classification of presence attributes as client reachability, user availability, user personal status, user or client location, and client capabilities, and wherein said values of the presence attributes have associated space and time information useable by the server to modify and presence attribute values or related presence attribute values in processing said primitives as disclosed by Aravamudan in the method disclosed by Desai and Eftis in order to provide up to date additional information regarding the status of the users resulting in a robust user friendly system.

Additionally to elaborate on the claim interpretation, the terms used in the claims such “authorize presence primitive”, “update presence primitive”, “get presence primitive” and “presence info primitive” are simply message commands used to conduct respective functionalities with respect to “presence primitive” (information related to the user profile). Also in addition, it is widely common in an electronic network environment for communications to include voice/video/data to be transmitted in the form of packets, datagrams or frames etc. For example, TCP/IP is a well-known communication protocol having a header that contains source and destination addresses along with additional fields that contain unique information about the transmitted packet.

Applicant on page 2, lines 20-21 of the specification admits and states: “a data structure including a plurality of primitives, ...”. Also it is common for a data structure to have plurality of fields (primitives), which relate to specific information

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regarding the user for example, name, address, phone number, e-mail address etc (please see Desai, col.9, lines 1-18 & col.17, lines 43-67).

4. As per claims 23 & 43 Desai-Eftis and Aravamudan disclosed the method of claim 22, wherein said one or more information elements further include a message identifier, a transaction identifier, and an identification of the requested user and/or the requested user (Desai, col.4, lines 44-61).

5. As per claims 17 Desai-Eftis and Aravamudan disclosed the method of claim 63, wherein said presence values are associated with corresponding presence attributes classified and typed according to standard (Eftis, col.1, lines 45-54).

6. As per claim 19 Desai-Eftis and Aravamudan disclosed the method of claim 22, wherein said method is performed in a presence information management system having at least one server able to communicate with a plurality of devices, wherein a communication protocol is used between the at least one server and the plurality of devices (Desai, col.33, lines 7-28).

7. As per claim 21 Desai-Eftis and Aravamudan disclosed the method of claim 22, wherein said space and time information has validity attribute associated thereto (Desai, col.3, lines 35-67 & col.4, lines 1-67).

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8. As per claims 25 & 45 Desai-Eftis and Aravamudan disclosed the method of claim 22, wherein said requesting authorization from a requested user is carried out by providing a request presence authorization primitive, said request presence authorization primitive comprises one or more information elements including a message identifier, an authorization request transaction identifier, a requesting user identifier and a list of presence attributes whose values are to be included in the presence primitive (Desai, col.3, lines 42-67 & col.4, lines 1-5).

9. As per claims 5, 8, 26 & 46 Desai-Eftis and Aravamudan disclosed the presence information service management method of claim 22 wherein presence information is authorized by means of authorize primitive comprises one or more information elements including a message identifier, an authorization request transaction identifier, a requesting user identifier, and a list of presence attributes whose values are to be included in the presence primitive (Desai, col.3, lines 42-67 & col.4, lines 1-5).

10. As per claims 27 & 47 Desai-Eftis and Aravamudan disclosed the method of claim 26 wherein said authorize presence primitive further comprises a group identifier if the authorization is related to a group (Eftis, col.4, lines 40-52).

11. As per claim 48 Desai-Eftis and Aravamudan disclosed the method of claim 42, wherein a buddy list user maintains one or more buddy lists on a server for sending messages to one or more recipient users separately or to every user



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on a buddy list through the server, wherein the recipient users are not necessarily aware of the buddy list and cannot refer to the buddy list with any replies they make, and said buddy list user maintaining one or more buddy lists on said server is able to access presence information of one or more users on the buddy list (Eftis, col.14, lines 20-57)

12. As per claims 29 & 49 Desai-Eftis and Aravamudan disclosed the method of claim 22, further comprising receiving join group primitives from member users joining a private user group, by presence primitives indicative of presence information of member users of said private user group to each member user upon joining said private user group but not after departing, and by providing group left primitives indicative of departed member users to remaining private user group member users upon receipt of leave group primitives indicative of said departing member users (Eftis, col.14, lines 20-57)

13. As per claims 30 & 50 Desai-Eftis and Aravamudan disclosed the method of claim 29, wherein member users are joined by said step of joining only if said join group message is preceded by a step of providing an invitation to join primitive to said joining member user (Eftis, col.14, lines 20-57).

14. As per claims 31 & 51 Desai-Eftis and Aravamudan disclosed the method of claim 22, further comprising receiving a create group primitive from a member

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user creating a user group, said create group primitive having information elements indicative of identification of a client used by the member user creating the user group, identification of the member user creating the user group, and a list of other member users of the user group, providing a group information primitive to the other member users indicative of establishment of the user group and selected group information, and by permitting member users of the user group to interchange message primitives (Eftis, col.14, lines 20-57).

15. As per claims 32 & 52 Desai-Eftis and Aravamudan disclosed the method of claim 31, further comprising receiving a request for group information from a requesting member user of the user group, and reporting to the requesting member user with a group information primitive indicative of the selected group information (Desai, col.3, lines 42-67 & col.4, lines 1-5).

16. As per claims 33 & 53 Desai-Eftis and Aravamudan disclosed the method of claim 31, further comprising: receiving a modify group primitive from a requesting member user of the user group, and providing a group information primitive indicative of modified group information of the user group to the requesting member user (Desai, col.3, lines 42-67 & col.4, lines 1-5).

17. As per claims 34 & 54 Desai-Eftis and Aravamudan disclosed the method of claim 31, further comprising receiving a request to delete group primitive from a requesting member user of the user group, and by providing a

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status primitive indicative of disestablishment of said user group to the member users of the user group (Desai, col.3, lines 42-67 & col.4, lines 1-5).

18. As per claims 35 & 55 Desai-Eftis and Aravamudan disclosed the method of claim 22, further comprising receiving a store content primitive from a storing user and storing any content conveyed in a content information element of said store content primitive along with or according to one or more information elements of said store content primitive, said one or more information elements identifying a store transaction, a storing user, a storing client used by said storing user, a group, properties of said content, and a header of said content, providing a content information primitive to member users in said group, said content information primitive having information elements identifying said content information primitive, said store transaction, and said header, receiving a get content information primitive from a retrieving user in said group said content information primitive having information elements identifying said get content primitive, a retrieval transaction, the retrieving user, a retrieving client used by said retrieving user, and said group, and providing a receive content primitive to said retrieving user said content information primitive having information elements identifying said receive content primitive, said retrieval transaction, said group, said content, said header of said content, and an information element containing content for sharing among said member users of said group (Desai, col.3, lines 42-67, col.4, lines 1-5 & col.8, lines 42-67).

19. As per claims 36 & 56 Desai-Eftis and Aravamudan disclosed the method of claim 35, further comprising: receiving a delete content primitive from a deleting user having information elements identifying said delete content primitive, a delete transaction, the deleting user, a deleting client used by said deleting user, said group, and content for deletion, and deleting said content (Desai, col.24, lines 3-19).

20. As per claims 37 & 57 Desai-Eftis and Aravamudan disclosed the method of claim 22, further comprising: providing a content information primitive to a notified user, said content information primitive having information elements identifying said content information primitive, a store transaction, and a header, receiving a get content information primitive from said notified user, said content information primitive having information elements identifying said get content primitive, a retrieval transaction, and said notified user, and providing a receive content primitive to said notified client user, said content information primitive having information elements identifying said receive content primitive, said retrieval transaction, said header, and having an information element containing a content (Desai, col.3, lines 42-67 & col.4, lines 1-5)

21. As per claims 38 & 58 Desai-Eftis and Aravamudan disclosed the method of claim 22 further comprising: receiving a store shared content primitive from a storing user, said store shared content primitive comprising one or more information elements including an information element containing said shared

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content, and information elements identifying said store content primitive, a store transaction, the storing user and a header, storing said shared content in the response to the store shared content primitive (Desai, col.3, lines 35-67 & col.4, lines 1-67).

22. As per claims 39 & 59 Desai-Eftis and Aravamudan disclosed the method of claim 38 further comprising: receiving a delete content primitive from a deleting user, said delete content primitive comprising one or more information elements identifying said delete content primitive, a delete transaction, the deleting user and a content for deletion, and deleting said content wherein in response to the delete content primitive (Desai, col.24, lines 3-19).

23. As per claims 40 & 60 Desai-Eftis and Aravamudan disclosed the method of claim 22, further comprising an exception management method for use in exception handling of a transaction by a user or server in responding to a request by said server or said user, respectively, said exception management method comprising: providing a status primitive in said responding to said request for indicating success or failure of said transaction as well as further information contained in information elements of said status primitive, and receiving said status primitive in said requesting server or said requesting user for recognizing said indication of success or failure (Eftis, col.14, lines 20-57).

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24. As per claims 41 & 61 Desai-Eftis and Aravamudan disclosed the method of claim 40, wherein said information elements include a message identifier, a transaction identifier, and a status value indicative of said success or failure (Eftis, col.14, lines 20-57).

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

25. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

26. Claims 5, 7, 8, 17, 19, 21-23, 25-27, 29-43, 45-61 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Desai et al (U.S. 6,820,204 B1) in view of Tornabene et al (U.S. Pub. No. 2002/0023132 A1).

27. To simplify the understanding of the claim language examiner has interpreted the claim limitations within {...} where applicable.

28. As per claims 22 & 42 Desai disclosed a method comprising receiving a subscribe presence primitive from a client of a requesting user for subscribing presence information of a requested user {a registered user requesting the

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presence information of another registered user} (col.3, lines 42-62) , determining if a subscription to said presence information of the requested user has been pre-authorized by the requested user {checking if the user whose presence information has been requested has authorized to release his/her presence information} (col.3, lines 63-67 & col.4,lines 1-7), if the subscription has not been pre-authorized {if not authorized}, requesting an authorization and receiving an authorize presence primitive from the requested user, and if the subscription has been authorized or pre-authorized, providing a presence primitive including presence information of the requested information to the requested user according to subscription (col.3, lines 63-67 & col.4,lines 1-7), wherein said subscription is valid for a period of time in which one or more presence primitives including requested presence information of the requested user are provided on an on-going basis to said client of said requesting user (col.13, lines 42-46), particularly after receiving an update presence primitive including one or more presence attribute values to be updated from said requested user (col.13,lines 39-43).

However Desai did not explicitly disclose the level of detail wherein the presence primitive comprises one or more information elements including a presence information element, said presence information element comprises one or more presence attributes, the values of the attributes indicating presence status of the requested user or a client of the requested user at the time the presence information is provided said presence attributes are classifiable in any or more of

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the following: client reachability, user availability, user personal status, user or client location, and client capabilities, and wherein said values of the presence attributes have associated space and time information useable by a presence server to modify said presence attribute values or related presence attribute values in processing said primitives.

In the same field of endeavor Tornabene disclosed wherein the presence primitive comprises one or more information elements including a presence information element, said presence information element comprises one or more presence attributes, the values of the attributes indicating presence status of the requested user or a client of the requested user at the time the presence information is provided (Page 11, lines 15-23 & page 12 lines 1-3 of the Tornabene's provisional application 60/189973 filed March 17, 2000).

Once a connection to the IM server 516 has been established, the client system 502 may use an installed IM client application to directly or indirectly transmit data to and access content from the IM server 516 and an associated domain server 518. The IM server 516 supports the fundamental instant messaging services and the domain sever 518 may support associated services, such as, for example, administrative matters, directory services, chat and interest groups. In general, the purpose of the domain server 518 is to lighten the load placed on the IM server 516 by assuming responsibility for some of the services within the IM host complex 512. By accessing the IM server 516 and/or the domain server 518, a subscriber can use the IM client application to view whether particular subscribers ("buddies") are online,



exchange instant messages with particular subscribers, participate in group chat rooms, trade files such as pictures, invitations or documents, find other subscribers with similar interests, get customized news and stock quotes, and search the Web.

said presence attributes are classifiable in any or more of the following: client reachability, user availability, user personal status, user or client location (paragraph. 63), and client capabilities (paragraph.84), and wherein said values of the presence attributes have associated space and time information useable by a presence server to modify and presence attribute values or related presence attribute values in processing said primitives (paragraph.6).

It would have been obvious to one in the ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have incorporated one or more presence attributes indicating the status of a user as disclosed by Tornabene in the method as disclosed by Desai in order to keep the track of the users on the network resulting in a robust network that portrays accurate information about the users in the network.

Additionally to elaborate on the claim interpretation, the terms used in the claims such “authorize presence primitive”, “update presence primitive”, “get presence primitive” and “ presence info primitive” are simply message commands used to conduct respective functionalities with respect to “presence primitive” (information related to the user profile). Also in addition, it is widely common for communications (to include voice/video/data) in an electronic network

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environment to be transmitted in the form of packets, datagrams or frames etc.

For example, TCP/IP is a well-known communication protocol having a header that contains source and destination addresses along with additional fields that contain unique information about the transmitted packet.

Applicant on page 2, lines 20-21 of the specification states: "a data structure including a plurality of primitives, ...". Also it is common for a data structure to have plurality of fields (primitives), which relate to specific information regarding the user for example, name, address, phone number, e-mail address etc (please see Desai, col.9, lines 1-18 & col.17, lines 43-67).

29. As per claims 23 & 43 Desai-Tornabene disclosed the method of claim 22, wherein said one or more information elements further include a message identifier, a transaction identifier, and an identification of the requested user and/or the requested user (Desai, col.4, lines 44-61).

30. As per claims 17 Desai-Tornabene disclosed the method of claim 63, wherein said presence values are associated with corresponding presence attributes classified and typed according to standard (Page 11, lines 15-23 & page 12 lines 1-3 of the Tornabene's provisional application 60/189973 filed March 17, 2000).

31. As per claim 19 Desai-Tornabene disclosed the method of claim 22, wherein said method is performed in a presence information management

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system having at least one server able to communicate with a plurality of devices, wherein a communication protocol is used between the at least one server and the plurality of devices (Desai, col.33, lines 7-28).

32. As per claim 21 Desai-Eftis and Aravamudan disclosed the method of claim 22, wherein said space and time information has validity attribute associated thereto (Desai, col.3, lines 35-67 & col.4, lines 1-67).

33. As per claims 25 & 45 Desai-Tornabene disclosed the method of claim 22, wherein said requesting authorization from a requested user is carried out by providing a request presence authorization primitive, said request presence authorization primitive comprises one or more information elements including a message identifier, an authorization request transaction identifier, a requesting user identifier and a list of presence attributes whose values are to be included in the presence primitive (Desai, col.3, lines 42-67 & col.4, lines 1-5).

34. A per claims 5, 8, 26 & 46 Desai-Tornabene disclosed the presence information service management method of claim 22 wherein presence information is authorized by means of authorize primitive comprises one or more information elements including a message identifier, an authorization request transaction identifier, a requesting user identifier, and a list of presence attributes whose values are to be included in the presence primitive (Desai, col.3, lines 42-67 & col.4, lines 1-5).

35. As per claims 27 & 47 Desai-Tornabene disclosed the method of claim 26 wherein said authorize presence primitive further comprises a group identifier if the authorization is related to a group (Page 11, lines 15-23 & page 12 lines 1-3 of the Tornabene's provisional application 60/189973 filed March 17, 2000).

36. As per claim 48 Desai-Tornabene disclosed the method of claim 42, wherein a buddy list user maintains one or more buddy lists on a server for sending messages to one or more recipient users separately or to every user on a buddy list through the server, wherein the recipient users are not necessarily aware of the buddy list and cannot refer to the buddy list with any replies they make, and said buddy list user maintaining one or more buddy lists on said server is able to access presence information of one or more users on the buddy list (Tornabene, paragraphs.84 & 86)

37. As per claims 29 & 49 Desai-Tornabene disclosed the method of claim 22, further comprising receiving join group primitives from member users joining a private user group, by presence primitives indicative of presence information of member users of said private user group to each member user upon joining said private user group but not after departing, and by providing group left primitives indicative of departed member users to remaining private user group member users upon receipt of leave group primitives indicative of said departing member users (Tornabene, paragraphs.76 & 85)

38. As per claims 30 & 50 Desai-Tornabene disclosed the method of claim 29, wherein member users are joined by said step of joining only if said join group message is preceded by a step of providing an invitation to join primitive to said joining member user (Tornabene, paragraphs.76 & 85).

39. As per claims 31 & 51 Desai-Tornabene disclosed the method of claim 22, further comprising receiving a create group primitive from a member user creating a user group, said create group primitive having information elements indicative of identification of a client used by the member user creating the user group, identification of the member user creating the user group, and a list of other member users of the user group, providing a group information primitive to the other member users indicative of establishment of the user group and selected group information, and by permitting member users of the user group to interchange message primitives (Tornabene, paragraphs.58, 76 & 85).

40. As per claims 32 & 52 Desai-Tornabene disclosed the method of claim 31, further comprising receiving a request for group information from a requesting member user of the user group, and reporting to the requesting member user with a group information primitive indicative of the selected group information (Desai, col.3, lines 42-67 & col.4, lines 1-5).

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41. As per claims 33 & 53 Desai-Tornabene disclosed the method of claim 31, further comprising: receiving a modify group primitive from a requesting member user of the user group, and providing a group information primitive indicative of modified group information of the user group to the requesting member user (Desai, col.3, lines 42-67 & col.4, lines 1-5).

42. As per claims 34 & 54 Desai-Tornabene disclosed the method of claim 31, further comprising receiving a request to delete group primitive from a requesting member user of the user group, and by providing a status primitive indicative of disestablishment of said user group to the member users of the user group (Desai, col.3, lines 42-67 & col.4, lines 1-5).

43. As per claims 35 & 55 Desai-Tornabene disclosed the method of claim 22, further comprising receiving a store content primitive from a storing user and storing any content conveyed in a content information element of said store content primitive along with or according to one or more information elements of said store content primitive, said one or more information elements identifying a store transaction, a storing user, a storing client used by said storing user, a group, properties of said content, and a header of said content, providing a content information primitive to member users in said group, said content information primitive having information elements identifying said content information primitive, said store transaction, and said header, receiving a get content information primitive from a retrieving user in said group said content

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information primitive having information elements identifying said get content primitive, a retrieval transaction, the retrieving user, a retrieving client used by said retrieving user, and said group, and providing a receive content primitive to said retrieving user said content information primitive having information elements identifying said receive content primitive, said retrieval transaction, said group, said content, said header of said content, and an information element containing content for sharing among said member users of said group (Desai, col.3, lines 42-67, col.4, lines 1-5 & col.8, lines 42-67)

44. As per claims 36 & 56 Desai-Tornabene disclosed the method of claim 35, further comprising: receiving a delete content primitive from a deleting user having information elements identifying said delete content primitive, a delete transaction, the deleting user, a deleting client used by said deleting user, said group, and content for deletion, and deleting said content (Desai, col.24, lines 3-19).

45. As per claims 37 & 57 Desai-Tornabene disclosed the method of claim 22, further comprising: providing a content information primitive to a notified user, said content information primitive having information elements identifying said content information primitive, a store transaction, and a header, receiving a get content information primitive from said notified user, said content information primitive having information elements identifying said get content primitive, a retrieval transaction, and said notified user, and providing a receive content

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primitive to said notified client user, said content information primitive having information elements identifying said receive content primitive, said retrieval transaction, said header, and having an information element containing a content (Desai, col.3, lines 42-67 & col.4, lines 1-5)

46. As per claims 38 & 58 Desai-Tornabene disclosed the method of claim 22 further comprising: receiving a store shared content primitive from a storing user, said store shared content primitive comprising one or more information elements including an information element containing said shared content, and information elements identifying said store content primitive, a store transaction, the storing user and a header, storing said shared content in the response to the store shared content primitive (Desai, col.3, lines 35-67 & col.4, lines 1-67).

47. As per claims 39 & 59 Desai-Tornabene disclosed the method of claim 38 further comprising: receiving a delete content primitive from a deleting user, said delete content primitive comprising one or more information elements identifying said delete content primitive, a delete transaction, the deleting user and a content for deletion, and deleting said content wherein in response to the delete content primitive (Desai, col.24, lines 3-19).

48. As per claims 40 & 60 Desai-Tornabene disclosed the method of claim 22, further comprising an exception management method for use in exception handling of a transaction by a user or server in responding to a request by said



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server or said user, respectively, said exception management method comprising: providing a status primitive in said responding to said request for indicating success or failure of said transaction as well as further information contained in information elements of said status primitive, and receiving said status primitive in said requesting server or said requesting user for recognizing said indication of success or failure (Tornabene, 76 and Page 11, lines 15-23 & page 12 lines 1-3 of the Tornabene's provisional application 60/189973 filed March 17, 2000).

49. As per claims 41 & 61 Desai-Tornabene disclosed the method of claim 40, wherein said information elements include a message identifier, a transaction identifier, and a status value indicative of said success or failure (Tornabene, paragraph. 76 and Page 11, lines 15-23 & page 12 lines 1-3 of the Tornabene's provisional application 60/189973 filed March 17, 2000).

### ***Response to Arguments***

Applicant's arguments filed 6/15/2009 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

#### **First Set: 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Desai, Eftis and Aravamudan**

Applicant on page 20 argued that information in Desai is "pulled", not "pushed" from the information exchange server and does not provide presence information on an on-going basis as claimed in claim 22.

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As to the above argument, applicant's claims give the impression that once the information is requested by the user then it is provided to the user by the information system and the claim language is silent W.R.T whether the requested information is "pulled" or "pushed". Therefore the "push"& "pull" argument is irrelevant to the claim language. Additionally examiner has cited the col.13, lines 39-46) of Desai to address the on-going access to presence information in the rejection above.

**Second Set: 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Desai, Turnabene**

50. Applicant's arguments filed 6/15/2009 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

51. Applicant again questioned the provisional filing date of Turnabene and argued that it fails to teach whether the online/offline status may be presented with additional information {i.e., any one or more of status information} .

As to applicant's argument examiner has cited excerpts from Turnabene's provisional application 60/189973 filed March 17, 2000 which is a valid prior art. Turnabene sufficiently discloses the online/offline status with respect the the limitation as claimed on the last paragraph of page 11 and page 21 titled FEATURES of Turnabene's provisional application 60/189973 filed March 17, 2000).

52. **Finally by reading the claim language of the independent claims it is apparent that this claim language is focused on a generic aspect of registration of users on a server that provides information exchange services (e.g. collaboration, chat room, contact management etc) for a group of users. Additionally, in conjunction to this system, functions such as subscription, registration, level of access to information and availability etc that are being claimed which are commonly used and practiced and are therefore not novel.** The invention as claimed is not allowable. Examiner again advises the applicant to significantly narrow the independent claims to move this case forward.

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ASGHAR BILGRAMI whose telephone number is (571)272-3907. The examiner can normally be reached on 9-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tonia L.M. Dollinger can be reached on 571-272-4170. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/A. B./

Examiner, Art Unit 2443

/Tonia LM Dollinger/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2443